

REMARKS

Claims 1-60 are pending in the present application. The Examiner rejected claims 1-60 under U.S.C. 103(a). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as follows.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Yao nor Maher, singly or in combination, discloses the claimed limitation of “transmitting floor-control request as an Internet Protocol (IP).” While Applicants agree with the Examiner that “Yao does not . . . teach . . . Internet protocol (IP) datagram,” Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner that Maher discloses this limitation. AS stated before, there is no mention of using Internet or IP datagram in Maher, neither in Col. 4, lines 25-40, nor in Col. 6, lines 36-46, or anywhere else.

In the Advisory Action of November 26, 2003, the Examiner stated that “a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference. . . .” However, the claimed limitation of “transmitting floor-control request as an Internet Protocol (IP)” is not a statement of use, rather it a positive and explicit step of the claimed method claim, and “means for transmitting floor-control request as an Internet Protocol (IP)” is an explicit structural limitation of the claimed apparatus claim.

In addition, in the Advisory Action of November 26, 2003, the Examiner stated that “Maher pertains to an IP multicast communication system . . . (Column 4, lines 25-40, and column 61, lines 36-46). Applicants wonder how the Examiner came up with such interpretation of these passages. Simply, Maher does not disclose, directly or indirectly, anything about IP, IP multicast, or IP datagram!

Therefore, since neither Tao nor Maher disclose at least the above limitation, Applicants request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection and pass the claims for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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